Module Specification

Music Cultures

Version: 2023-24, v2.0, 17 May 2023

Contents

Part 1: Information

Module title: Music Cultures

Module code: UPCNAK-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Arts Creative Industries & Education

Department: ACE Dept of Creative & Cultural Industries

Partner institutions: None

Field: Cultural Studies

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module examines key theoretical approaches in the analysis of the production, distribution and consumption of popular music.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Students will develop a number of transferable skills through their engagement with various theoretical perspectives and the analysis of contemporary technical and cultural developments within the music industry.

Outline syllabus: The module will examine popular music by thinking about questions of power and agency. Examining the historical contexts that have shaped the contemporary music industry, the module will explore the impact of technological change on shaping meaning in the production and consumption of musical forms. The module will also explore key social and cultural factors that contribute to the articulation of modes of identity, giving particular attention to issues such as class, gender, ethnicity and sexuality. This focus on identity and notions of cultural 'difference' will enable the students to consider the impact of difference, diversity and inequality on production, consumption, interactivity and engagement within the music industry and wider cultural sector.

Drawing on studies produced within a range of theoretical contexts, the module includes discussion of the relationship between popular music and processes of globalisation, the impact of digital technologies on the music industry, fan cultures and subcultures. By examining the complex relationships between producers, artist and audiences of popular music, students will explore the ways in which media, communication and culture are produced and consumed in different professional and cultural contexts in everyday life, by diverse communities of interest and publics on a local and global scale.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The emphasis on individual research based on contemporary examples will enable students to develop their ability to design, plan, realise and reflect on sustained critical research projects. In developing the ability to research and analyse a range of cultural texts and artefacts (including industry reports, journalism, fan produced texts, audio-visual materials and fashion) students with help to develop flexible research skills appropriate to both further academic study and professional work in a variety of contexts.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Demonstrate through sustained argument and analysis an understanding of the historical development of the popular music industry and its impact on production and consumption.

MO2 Critically explore key debates and arguments relating notions of power, identity and agency in the creation, distribution and consumption of popular music forms

MO3 Demonstrate the ability to understand and critically engage with the significance of theories of ideology and 'resistance' in relation to the analysis of popular music

MO4 Develop detailed research and analysis of specific case studies within popular music which highlight practices of innovation and negotiation within the production and consumption of popular cultural forms

MO5 The ability to situate specific examples of identity formation and negotiation relating to the field of popular music within contemporary debates surrounding agency and control within popular culture

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link https://uwe.rl.talis.com/index.html

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Criteria: Engagement with relevant concepts and debates Relates to learning outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Criteria: Relevant and focused investigation using relevant academic sources

Relates to learning outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Criteria: Relevant audio-visual research

Relates to learning outcomes: 4, 5

Criteria: Structure, clarity and presentation

Relates to learning outcomes: 4, 5

Assessment tasks:

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Essay (2,000 words)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO5

Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Research Essay (3,000 words)

Weighting: 45 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Examination (First Sit)

Description: Exam (2 hours)

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO5

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Essay (2000 words)

Weighting: 25 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO5

Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Research essay (3000 words)

Weighting: 45 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5

Examination (Resit)

Description: Exam (2hours)

Weighting: 30 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO5

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Media and Cultural Production [HKUSpace] Not Running BA (Hons) 2022-23

Media and Cultural Production [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] - Not Running BA (Hons) 2021-22

Media Culture and Communication [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] - Not Running BA (Hons) 2021-22

Media and Cultural Production [Sep][PT][HKUSpace][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Media and Cultural Production [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Media and Cultural Production {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Media Culture and Communication [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Media Culture and Communication {Foundation}[Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Media and Cultural Production [Sep][PT][HKUSpace][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Media and Cultural Production {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Media Culture and Communication {Foundation}[Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20